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Title:
Message for Telethon House of Hope

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MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, THE HON. DON DUNSTAN, Q.C., M.P., FOR THE SUPPLEMENT ON THE TELETHON HOUSE OF HOPE, IN THE NEWS ON FRIDAY THE 6TH OCTOBER, 1967.

I welcome this opportunity to write a message as Premier of South Australia for inclusion in this supplement on the Telethon House of Hope.

So far six Telethons have been held in South Australia under the sponsorship of N.W.S. Channel 9 in conjunction with Radio Station 5DN and the News. So successful have these been that Telethon is now a well established annual event in South Australian life. There are many features of Telethon which are worthy of comment.

So far Telethon has raised the magnificent total of \$500,000 - without Government subsidy - for a large number of deserving charities. The addition of substantial Government subsidies to this total has meant that many under privileged members of our community have received assistance and benefits which otherwise would have been denied them. This year the money raised by Telethon along with the Government subsidy which will doubtless be given, will aid Minda Home, the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, the Mentally Retarded Children's Society and the Phoenix Society, charities like those which have benefited in the past, are deserving of the support of all South Australians who are financially able to contribute.

Another outstanding feature of Telethon is the spirit of co-operation and generosity which is revealed amongst those who are privileged to be well known and respected in the community as entertainers and personalities of television and radio. Each year through the long period of Telethon proper they give freely and willingly of their time in the service of others. Generosity seems to be the key note of the whole Telethon operation. This is indicated not only by the outstanding sum of money raised in the past but also by the enormously selfless effort made by many people throughout South Australia. Especially is this true of young people who seem to reserve their big money raising effort on behalf of the less fortunate until Telethon each year.

The Government is doing all that it can to provide a proper standard of living for the sick, the deserted, the poor, the incapacitated, and the elderly people in our community, but so great is this task that it would be impossible without the excellent work done voluntarily through such ventures as Telethon.

In the whole Telethon operation there is probably no more important feature than the House of Hope. Once again this year the organisers of Telethon have provided as the object of competition an outstanding example of modern suburban housing.

I have no doubt that the generosity of all South Australians will ensure that again this year the House of Hope and Telethon as a whole will be a source of help and effort to many sick and under privileged South Australians.

PREMIER.